

# Crook & Willington Urban District Council

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CROOK AND WILLINGTON  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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R E P O R T  
of the  
M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R  
O F   H E A L T H  
for the  
Year Ended 31st December, 1963.

No. 6 Health Area,  
"Springfield"  
WILLINGTON,  
Crook,  
Co. Durham.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS  
OF THE COUNCIL

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Medical Officer of Health -- G. A. MACGREGOR, M.D., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector -- J. B. KELLY, D.P.A.(Dunelm.,) D.M.A., A.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector -- C. E. DAVISON, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector -- E. LEES, M.A.P.H.I.



To the Chairman and Members of Crook and Willington U.D.C.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1963.

The vital statistics for the year present much the same picture as they have done during the past 5 years. It may be noted that the area did not participate in the general national rise in birth rate possibly because of emigration of the younger working population as a result of the recession of mining and the closing of some pits. The death rate remained much about the same as in the previous 5 years and over 75% of the deaths were attributable to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. Once again there were no deaths from puerperal sepsis while the infantile death rate of 19.18 is the lowest recorded for some years.

Of the infectious diseases measles accounted for the majority of cases and was, fortunately, of a mild type. There were no cases of diphtheria, typhoid, paratyphoid, smallpox or poliomyelitis recorded during the year, and the 5 new cases of tuberculosis were sporadic and diagnosed in an early stage. In the campaign against the latter disease tuberculin testing of school children was extended to school entrants while both the testing and B.C.G. immunisation continued to be given to children of 11 years and over. In addition, the mass x-ray unit continued its valuable work and paid 2 visits during the year. The contact tracing and home supervision of tuberculous cases was actively pursued.

Visits to the aged in their homes continued to be made and assistance, where possible, was given to ameliorate their conditions either with the aid of voluntary associations, the County Council or other agencies. A considerable amount of time was also taken up with the problems of a number of families who seemed unable to take care of themselves or their families satisfactorily.

The three Maternity & Child Welfare Clinics in Crook, Willington and Wooley Terrace were fully employed during the year and much useful preventative work was performed in them such as immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and smallpox; displays of posters, health education talks, relaxation classes for expectant mothers, sunlight treatment and many others. The statistics for these clinics are available in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer for 1963.

The Chief Public Health Inspector has appended his report.

In conclusion I wish to record my thanks to the Council and staff for their co-operation during 1963.

I have the honour to be, ladies and gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. A. MACGREGOR,  
Medical Officer of Health.

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CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's Estimate - Mid Year)	...	...	24,830
Area (In Acres)	...	...	15,476
Number of Inhabited Houses (Mid Year)	...	...	8,632
Rateable Value	...	...	£ 532,209
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	£ 1,980

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	348	172	176
Illegitimate	<u>17</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>365</u>	<u>183</u>	<u>182</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	14.69
General Birth Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	18.2

Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	9	4	5
Illegitimate	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still)	...	...	15.06

Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	<u>349</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>152</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	14.05
Death Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	12.2

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	..	..	Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	7	3	4
Illegitimate	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	
Legitimate	5	2	3	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	19.18
Infantile Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	...	20.9
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births - legitimate			...	20.11
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births - illegitimate			...	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	13.70
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	8.22
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	32.09
Deaths from Cancer ...	...	...	...	47
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	-
Death from Diarrhoea	...	...	...	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	-

Table of Birth and Death Rates for the past 6 years.

YEAR	Death Rate	Infantile Death Rate under 1 year	Birth Rate
1958	14.41	31.02	15.35
1959	12.21	31.74	14.17
1960	14.49	40.92	14.79
1961	13.79	20.88	15.14
1962	15.56	29.09	14.53
1963	14.05	19.18	14.69



CAUSES OF DEATH at Different Periods of Life During 1963

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total										75 & over
		All	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 - 5	5 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 55	55 - 65	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
4. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
5. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
6. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
7. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	19	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	4	6	6
	F	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	2	3
8. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Diabetes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
10. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	8	12
	F	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	11	14
11. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	38	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	11	15	9
	F	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	18	9
12. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
13. Other Heart Diseases	M	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	18
	F	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	24
14. Other Circulatory Disease	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
15. Influenza	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - Carried forward		256	-	2	-	1	1	1	2	12	43	78
												116

CAUSE OF DEATH (Contind.)	Sex	Total		Under 4 weeks		4 weeks and under 1 year		ages								75 & over
		All	ages	4 weeks	1 year	1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	78	116	
TOTAL - (Brought Forward)		256		-	2	-	1	1	1	1	2	12	43	78	116	
16. Pneumonia	M	5		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
	F	6		1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	
17. Bronchitis	M	24		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	5	10	7	
	F	6		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	
18. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	5		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	
	F	1		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
19. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	2		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
20. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	3		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
21. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
22. Congenital Malformations	M	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2		1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
23. Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases	M	12		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	3	-	
	F	16		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	6	3	
24. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
	F	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
25. All Other Accidents	M	3		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	
	F	3		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
26. Suicide	M	1		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	197		2	1	-	1	1	-	5	15	43	55	74		
	F	152		3	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	22	50	64		
GRAND TOTAL		349		5	2	1	2	2	1	6	22	65	105	138		

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Total Cases notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Dysentery	-	-	-
Measles	176	-	-
Whooping Cough	32	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	5	4	1
Pneumonia	-	-	11
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-

The following Table shows the number of cases notified and deaths recorded from Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever during the past 6 years.

YEAR	DIPHTHERIA		SCARLET FEVER	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1958	-	-	11	-
1959	-	-	20	-
1960	-	-	9	-
1961	-	-	5	-
1962	-	-	4	-
1963	-	-	1	-

NOTIFIED DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1963

The following table gives the incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year.

[illegible]

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

## NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER

AT 31st DECEMBER, 1963.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			TOTAL
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Cases
239	191	430	121	136	257	687



COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS

YEAR	New Cases				Deaths				No. on Register at end of year			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1958	5	3	8	1	1	1	3	-	3	222	183	405
1959	2	1	3	-	1	1	2	-	2	224	184	408
1960	4	1	5	1	1	2	3	-	3	228	185	413
1961	3	2	5	5	-	5	1	1	1	231	187	418
1962	4	3	7	-	1	1	2	-	2	235	190	425
1963	4	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	1	239	191	430



Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

1. WATER SUPPLY - The Durham County Water Board are the principal suppliers of water in the area and the vast majority of houses are connected to their mains. No houses are supplied by means of stand pipes but a few farms and cottages are dependent upon well supplies. A typical analysis of a mains supply is as follows:-

<u>Physical Examination</u>	<u>Wiskerley</u>
Colour Hazen Units	40.0
Turbidity	2.0
Odour	None
pH Value	8.0
<u>General Chemical Examination</u>	<u>Parts per Million</u>
Total Solids	80.0
Suspended Solids	Trace
Hardness as Ca CO <sub>3</sub>	
Carbonate hardness	27.0
Non-carbonate hardness	20.0
Total hardness	47.0
Chlorides as Cl	9.0
Nitrates as N <sub>2</sub>	0.2
Free and Saline Ammonia as N	0.2
Albumoid Ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub>	0.1
Oxygen absorbed - 4 hrs. @ 27°C as O	4.0
Sulphates as SO <sub>4</sub>	20.0
Soluble Silica as SiO <sub>2</sub>	2.0
Aluminium as Al	0.5 Max.
Copper as Cu	Less than 0.1
Fluorine as F	0.15
Iron as Fe	0.2
Lead as Pb	Less than 0.1
Manganese as Mn	Nil - 0.05

There is no evidence of plumbo solvent action in the water supplied in the area.

During the year one sample of water was taken for chemical analysis and this proved to be unsatisfactory. A report was made to the Durham County Water Board and an improvement effected. Complaints of poor water pressure were also reported to the Durham County Water Board who gave the complaints prompt attention.

2. VISITS - The following is a summary of the visits undertaken by Officers of the Department during the year in pursuit of their official duties:-

(1) Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2916
(2) W.C. Conversions and Defective Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
(3) Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	366
(4) Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
(5) Food Premises and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1549
(6) Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
(7) Cinemas and Public Halls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(8) Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
(9) Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(10) Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	220
(11) Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
(12) Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(13) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55

To this list must be added numerous other visits and inspections which cannot be categorised, in connection with the health and well-being of the residents of this district.

3. NUISANCES ETC. - The following table shows the principal nuisances dealt with during the year by means of notices:-

	No. of Informal Notices Served.	No. of Statutory Notices Served.
Public Health and Housing Acts	28	12
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	41	1
Drainage	14	-

Many other nuisances were remedied and complaints dealt with as a result of informal action by Officers of the department without resorting to the use of notices.

4. SCHOOLS - Occasional inspections of schools in the district were made in connection with sanitary accommodation and washing and canteen facilities. No nuisances were reported.
5. SMOKE ABATEMENT - Industrial smoke pollution cannot be considered a major problem in this semi-rural area and informal action sufficed to deal with isolated complaints of smoking chimneys, burning rubbish etc.
6. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS - During the 12 months ended 31st December, 1963, 259 dwelling houses and 62 shops and agricultural properties were inspected. Out of these, 310 houses, shops and other premises were found to be infested by rats and/or mice, and treatment was carried out accordingly. No charge is made for the treatment of domestic property but shops and agricultural hereditaments are treated on a cost plus supervision basis. Close supervision of the Council's refuse tips and sewage works continued during the year.
7. SHOPS AND FOOD PREMISES - Continuous supervision of food shops and food preparing premises has occurred during the year to ensure that these premises comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations and attain a satisfactory standard of hygiene.

The following premises in the area are concerned with the manufacture and/or retailing of food:-

22 Butchers
5 Chemists
17 Fish Shops
63 General Dealers
50 Grocers
10 Greengrocers
7 Stalls
21 Restaurants, School Kitchens, Hotel Kitchens and Canteens
9 Bakehouses
2 Food Factories
16 Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or preserved food etc.
3 Premises for the manufacture and sale of ice cream

3 applications for registration for the retailing of ice cream were granted during the year. The total number of premises registered for this purpose is now 93.

8. SLAUGHTERHOUSES - 8 registered slaughterhouses were operating during the year, and 1,549 visits were paid to these establishments and food premises generally for the purpose of food inspection and enforcement of hygiene requirements.

# 11.

The following table gives details of the carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number of carcasses inspected	3,939	741	110	11,315	6,668
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	13	33	4	23	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	446	15	-	83	431
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	11.65	6.48	3.64	0.94	6.67
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.10	0.13	-	-	0.32

26 beasts' carcasses were found to be affected with Cysticercus Bovis.

9. FOOD ETC. CONDEMNED - During the year 14 tons. 10 cwt. 6 st. 6 lbs. of fresh meat and 9 cwt. 6 st. 4 lb. 2 ozs. of miscellaneous tinned foods and loose provisions were condemned as unfit for human consumption. Condemned carcass meat is disposed of by the trade to local firms for processing including the manufacture of animal foods and this involves much time-absorbing supervision by the meat inspectors. Unsound tinned food and loose provisions are destroyed at the Council's refuse tips.

10. W.C. CONVERSIONS - During the year 3 W.C. conversions were effected. Ashclosets now remain only in property with a short life or where drainage or water supply difficulties exist.

11. HOUSING - The following table gives an indication of the year's progress in the clearance of slums and improvement of older houses in the area:-

Houses represented for clearance during the year . . . 52

Improvement Grant applications approved . . . . . 83

As in other years a great deal of attention has been paid to the condition, repair and maintenance of housing in the area.

The National Coal Board continued with their programme of improvement to their property in the area, but with this notable exception house improvement works were mainly carried out by owner-occupiers.

## 12. COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AND SALVAGE

Number of premises cleansed weekly	...	...	...	8,865
Additional collections each week (as from July, 1963)	...	...	...	381
Number of collections during the year	...	...	...	529,100
Total refuse collected	...	...	...	15,783 tons
Yield per premise per year	...	...	...	1.78 tons
Average haul to tips	...	...	...	2½ miles
Number of tips	...	...	...	3
Permanent establishment	...	...	...	31 + 1 Rodent Operative
Number of vehicles employed on Refuse collection etc.	...	...	...	8 + 1 Spare
Number of vehicles employed on Salvage & Trade Refuse	...	...	...	1
Refuse Disposal Plant	...	...	...	1 - 30 T.D. Angledozer
				1 - 3 cu. yds. Scraper
				1 - Low Loader



Salvage Collections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55 tons. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
Salvage Income	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£479. 2. 6d.

Collection of refuse was maintained on a weekly basis during the year with the exception of some colliery property where the volume of heavy refuse necessitated additional clearances.

The bulk of the refuse collected was disposed of by controlled tipping at the riverside site at Millington, the Council's angledozer again proving invaluable in consolidating and controlling the tip.

During the year the establishment was reduced by 2 men who retired and were not replaced and the number of vehicles actually engaged on refuse collection was reduced from 9 to 8.

13. FACTORIES ACTS - During the year 62 inspections of premises subject to the Factories Acts were made principally in connection with sanitary accommodation.
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In conclusion I would express to the Members of the Council my appreciation of their support and encouragement during the year and my sincere thanks to my colleagues and all the staff of the Health Department for their invaluable assistance and co-operation.

J. B. KELLY

Chief Public Health Inspector.